You may separate the news sheet from the issue by tearing along the crease between the pages.

FRONT * UFO NEWSFRONT * UFO NEWSFRONT * UFO NEW
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* * * * * * * THE LATEST UFO NEWS EVENTS, PREPARED JULY 31, 1977 * * * *

MUFON SYMPOSIUM HELD - The first MUFON-sponsored symposium held in MUFON's Western Regional District took place on July 16-17 at the Safari Resort Hotel and Convention Center. The symposium didn't get the national turn-out expected, according to William Spaulding of Ground Saucer Watch (affiliated with MUFON), but they had "good local representation, talks, meetings, and media coverage". Tom Yates described a new classification scheme...for UFOlogists, not UFOs! Dr. William McCall and Alvin Lawson provided a demonstration of possible "false" results obtained by regressive hypnosis techniques. GSW provided its ever-evolving UFO photographic analysis lecture, including new movie footage that they have recently obtained.

1978 - UN'S UFO YEAR? - Sir Eric Gairy, Prime Minister of Grenada, proposed to the United Nations that the world body designate 1978 as the International Year of the Unidentified Flying Object. He urged a U.N. agency be created to conduct research on UFOs in a draft resolution submitted for consideration by the General Assembly. Approval would mean a UFO congress in Grenada and even commemorative stamps to mark it!

EXCITING UFO REPORT FROM NEW YORK - IUR has learned of a potentially important UFO sighting developing in the small city of Lindley, New York. On July 23, the local police ignored three calls from a group of three frantic women who described twelve UFOs and eight creatures each four feet tall. Imagine their embarassment when they finally arrived and found multiple footprints, "split" stones, and dug-up earth around their property! Four days later, an ex-policeman living six miles away experienced a similar event with the same green-belted creatures! IUR is conducting a full-scale investigation and will present a report in the next issue.

ERRATUM - One of the cases of limited merit in the February, 1977 issue of IUR, 2-2-1, was mistakenly located in "Holland, CT". This should have read "Holland, MA". The star on the Profile Map is still correct as it happened just north of the Connecticut border. IUR thanks the sharp-eyed researchers who spotted the error.

UFO ANALYSIS - *Of the eight remaining cases, one was a star, two were ad planes, one was ascribable to a prank balloon, and four are still under investigation.*

INTERNATIONAL UFO REPORTER T.M.

VOL. 2, NO. 8 AUG. 1977

A MONTHLY REVIEW OF THE UFO PHENOMENON
REPORTS, INVESTIGATIONS & ANALYSES

"There is no hope of advance in science without a paradox."—Niels Bohr

PROJECT STARLIGHT UPDATE
What instruments are valid for UFO research?

ANGEL HAIR ANALYZED
First returns on a chemical analysis of a recent "angel hair" candidate

SIX UFOs SELECTED FROM 91 U.S. CASES

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EDITORIAL

by Dr. J. Allen Hynek

With this issue we introduce a new feature: *New Cases Out of the Past*. We might have called it *New Oldies*. It will appear as material, and space, permit.

While IUR is dedicated to keeping readers up to date on current UFO events, significant cases come out of the past, sometimes surfacing years later. These do not come from the Police Hot Line at the Center for UFO Studies but largely through the "grapevine" . . . by letter and by private conversations. Often they come from people who had *not* wanted to have their experience known, largely because of the fear of ridicule. Frequently they recognize that if it hadn't happened to them they would not believe such a story themselves, and they, themselves, would have heaped ridicule on the teller. So they are well aware of their fate should they broadcast their story. It doesn't take much courage to report a Nocturnal Light because this doesn't really impugn the teller's sanity. But a Close Encounter of the Second or Third Kind . . . or even a Daylight Disc (as the one described in this issue) is a different story. These cause raised eyebrows and the exchange of significant glances.

Why then do these cases come to light at all? The witness sooner or later just has to tell someone, someone he feels he can trust, so he tells his spouse or a close friend; the story is often just too good to hold, however, so it is told to someone else (in confidence!), and sooner or later it leaks out. Sometimes enough time has elapsed to give some manner of "protection"; something that happened several years ago can be told in the guise of an interesting anecdote and thus doesn't have the impact of a current news flash.

Perhaps this new feature will encourage our readers to contribute a major old sighting, heretofore untold, to the scientific data bank for research purposes, knowing that at the Center and at most UFO organizations no publicity will result therefrom when requested.

J. Allen Hynek

IN CURRENT JOURNALS

DOVES ARE JUST MIDDLE CLASS PIGEONS, by Peter Rogerson, MUFOB, Summer 1977.

" ... the UFO also symbolizes the totally demonic. It is a symbol of all that which is really damned and excluded in order to preserve the coherence of the cultural universe of consensus reality and the integrity of the ego itself. As 'damned and excluded' the UFO exists as a symbol on the horizons of our collective consciousness. It is the symbol of the Ultimate Outsider, the very hint of whose existence threatens our ontological security. Everything is at stake, precisely because the UFO symbolizes, *in this context*, that which cannot be accommodated in any system whatever. Such an image must also serve as a symbol of the rejected and excluded aspects of our own personalities."

UFO, OCCUPANTS AND SEX IN COLOMBIA, by Gordon Creighton, Flying Saucer Review, Vol. 23, No. 1.

" ... many of the more thoughtful students of our subject are nowadays beginning to realize that all our ideas about the existence of a whole plethora of different types of UFO creatures are probably fanciful and nonsensical.... Those who have read the account (FSR Vol. 21, No. 2) of the investigation of Peter, the young man whose car was seemingly transported by a UFO in 1974 ... will recall the replies that Peter gave when he was asked, under hypnosis, what the entities looked like (remember, Peter was in a very deep trance): 'They looked how I wanted them to look...'"

BOOK REVIEW

HANDBOOK OF UNUSUAL NATURAL PHENOMENA, William R. Corliss, published & distributed by The Sourcebook Project, Glen Arm, MD 21057, $14.95. 542 pages.

This book comprises one of the most interesting collections of reports of anomalous natural phenomena available. What makes it so interesting (and valuable) is that the reports are abstracted from professional scientific journals such as NATURE, SCIENCE, the SMITHSONIAN ANNUAL REPORTS, etc., and delve back into the 19th century. In fact, the preponderance of material obtained from the *past* is a commentary in itself on the changing attitudes of these journals and the scientists who contribute to them. Such reports today appear only in specialized journals such as MARINE OBSERVER, or WEATHERWISE, but no longer in SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN!

Some of the phenomena chronicled are "lights in the sky", ball lightning, erratic meteors, light wheels, and unexplained mirages, all of which are of interest to UFOlogists in the light of current knowledge and precedent. Many examples of nocturnal lights from the past are collected.

This is a truly unique reference source and, in addition, is quite fascinating reading. The author makes no claims nor draws any conclusions about the veracity of these reported events, nor of the astronomical, meteorological and geophysical explanations ascribed to them; this is a welcome feature in a general reference work of this nature. Corliss' collection is bound to appeal to IUR readers with a serious interest in the full scope of anomalous aerial phenomena. Highly recommended resource.

NOTE: Owners of Corliss' previous collections, SOURCEBOOKS 1 & 2, should know that 75% of the material in this new collection does not appear in these earlier versions.

FOREIGN FORUM

This is a representative sampling of UFO sightings from around the world. While we cannot exert the same degree of control over these cases compared to domestic ones, it is at least of value to see that the same characteristics are reported for this phenomenon as in the U.S.

AUSTRALIA: Port Neill, "discovered" Mar. 11, 1977. Farmer B. T. Bray discovered a 4.3-meter diameter, circular "physical trace"—like ring in a paddock near Brayfield. No UFO was seen to have directly caused it. The topsoil, soft everywhere else, was surprisingly hard in the ring, with the grass in the center undisturbed. Soil samples have been sent to Adelaide for analysis.

SOURCE: The Adelaide, South Australia Advertiser, March 12, 1977.

BELGIUM: La Louviere, April 17, 1977. A 67-year old woman watched a flat cylinder with faceted sides move from the SW to the NE at 4 PM against a blue sky. The object was a matte, dark color, seemed solid, and did not emit light, fire, smoke or a trail. It moved in a straight line with an oscillation in the same direction as the wind.

SOURCE: Commission d'Etudes OURANOS, direct.

CANADA: Vancouver, April 18, 1977. George Thrupp and Margaret Mancor of the Vancouver weather office watched a cigar-shaped "flash" with an orange top-half, a blue bottom, and black portholes appear from the south just after midnight. (Possible meteor—Ed.)

SOURCE: The Vancouver Sun, April 19, 1977, via Alf Carlson.

SWEDEN: Flykalen, Laxsjo, April 10, 1977. Martha and Olof Eriksson watched a yellow light with a red textile-like apparition hanging below it, 100 feet long and wide. It was seen at 2:30 AM moving from south to north.

SOURCE: Lanstidningen Ostersund newspaper, Sweden, April 12, 1977.

WALES: Milford Haven, reported Apr. 26, 1977. Mrs. Pauline Coombes, 31, reported seeing a luminous silver figure 7-8 feet tall and 3 feet wide looking into their window for an hour. She didn't say anything until her son noticed it, too. Human in form, the figure's face was black and featureless; it "vanished" when a neighbor drove up. About 2 weeks earlier, Mrs. Coombes accelerated her own car to 80 m.p.h. in the company of her children to escape a mysterious yellow sphere that "pursued" them.

SOURCE: The Melbourne, Australia Herald, April 26, 1977.

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U.S. SIGHTINGS

6 UFOs SELECTED FROM 91 CASES: June 15-July 14

77 reports were judged to be identifiable.
8 reports are still under investigation.
See the "Profile" feature for the monthly breakdown.

HOW WE LEARN OF UFO'S: UFO reports are from news departments, civilian organizations and individuals all over the world, but most of our reports stem from the Center for UFO Studies' UFO Central Hotline. This is a 24-hour, toll-free telephone service for the exclusive use of law enforcement agencies, FAA agencies, planetaria and other formal channels. This gives us the chance to follow up *all* cases rapidly for first-hand information with unlimited long-distance capability. Other advantages include screening of the hoaxers Indeed, police who patrol when others are asleep are encouraged to fill this void.

HOW WE DEFINE UFO'S: Any anomalous aerial phenomena whose appearance and/or behavior can't be ascribed to conventional objects and effects—not only by the original witnesses, but also by analysts who possess technical qualifications the original observer may lack.

NL—Nocturnal Light: distant anomalous lights seen in the night sky
DD—Daylight Discs: distant disc-like objects seen during the day
RV—Radar/Visual: UFOs seen by radar and vision simultaneously

CE I—Close Encounter of the First Kind: UFOs seen within 500 feet
CE II—Close Encounter of the Second Kind: CE I's that leave behind physical traces
CE III—Close Encounter of the Third Kind: CE I with humanoid occupants seen

HOW WE NUMBER CASES: All UFO sightings will receive a three element number which will serve as a case "name". The first numbers refer to the volume and issue number of the edition that contains the case, and the last number refers to the order it arrived (example: 1-1-7, the seventh case of the first issue).

UFOs of Limited Merit

These reports are of intermediate stature. They are UFOs in the sense that we don't know what they are, but for a variety of stated *reasons, they are not really worthy of closer scrutiny.*

CASE	TYPE	DATE	TIME	DURATION	WITNESSES	PLACE
2-8-26	NL	6-26-77	2:45-3:00 AM	4 sec. (3X)	2	Greece, NY

25-year old student and friend watched a point source of light flash "on" briefly 4 times as it rushed across the sky from east to west in 4 seconds. 7-10 min. passed, and the object rushed back again from west to east, again flashing 4 times in 4 seconds. 10 minutes later, it flashed overhead again, but instead of continuing west, it flashed a second and third time en route to the SE towards Syracuse (the actual sharp turn could not be seen).

No additional witnesses; no confirmation or reports via police, Rochester Air Traffic Control, or Griffiss Air Force Base.

2-8-36	NL	6-27-77	11 PM	5-10 min.	4	Genesee, WI

38-year old housewife and three young children drove toward a structure composed of 3 parallel cylinders "like Star Trek" until they were underneath it. The hovering, silent object looked as big as the full moon, with 2 steady white lights in front and a red light on top. When their car came to a stop, the object moved off slowly to the SE toward Milwaukee and was obscured by trees.

No other reports from the Milwaukee area; unseen by Mitchell Field. Helicopter?

2-8-51	DD	7-2-77	12:45 PM	30 sec.	1	Benton Harbor, MI

Woman driving in car was approaching a school building when she saw a silent silver disc, seen edge on with an apparent diameter twice that of the moon. The disc hovered motionless in the air with the left side tilted down. Trees obscured her vision for about one minute; when they cleared, the disc was gone. Seen against a deep blue sky.

Single witness, even though this happened in a populated area at midday. Unseen by Benton Harbor police, the local airport, South Bend Approach Control, and the Aurora Air Route Traffic Control Center. Possible aircraft seen on edge.

2-8-54	NL	7-3-77	9:30 PM	6 sec.	2	Clarksburg, WV

56-year old man, member of many civic committees, briefly watched a silver rectangle the proportions of a brick fly under a low cloud cover. Distinctly-defined, 1½ times the size of the moon, the rectangle flew silently northbound, climbing at a 30-degree angle and was presumably lost in the cloud cover (unseen). Witness adamant it was not a plane on edge.

Mostly single witness; son-in-law only got a brief glimpse of it at the end. Benedum Airport in Clarksburg looked for it via radar and binoculars at the time but couldn't locate it.

2-8-72	CEI	7-9-77	2:30 AM	2 min.	1	Flat Rock, MI

38-year old singer drove her car north up Telegraph Road toward a distant hovering object. When she overtook it, it was off the road to her left 150 feet, and was about 200 feet up. The object was saucer shaped, dull silver in color, and had many red and green lights around the outer thirds of the rim. A bright spotlight illuminated the ground throughout the entire event. Then the disc rose and floated slowly and quietly away over the treetops to the SW in 30-45 seconds.

Single witness. No additional reports via local police or State Police (stationed 1½ miles up the road). Unseen by Detroit Metropolitan Airport. The witness, a singer/drummer, wondered if it might be taking samples, and "didn't want to be one".

(cont. on back page)

ANGEL HAIR. . . UNDER ANALYSIS

A Preliminary Report

WHAT IS "ANGEL HAIR"

Angel hair is a substance that has been reported to fall gently to the ground during UFO observations. There are 30 references to discoveries of this material in Ted Phillip's Physical Trace catalog, published by the Center for UFO Studies, though some of these finds were made without a UFO being present. Angel hair generally resembles spider web "gossamer"; in fact, there is a species of spider (of the family *Linyphiidae*) that migrates by spinning a single strand of web which carries it airborne! When these strands are jettisoned and accumulate together in the wind, they can look like the "angel hair" alleged to fall from the vicinity of UFO's, but this kind of web is easily identifiable. "Real" angel hair is alleged to have a variety of mysterious properties; sometimes the strands are very strong, sometimes these filaments will curl into a ball to the touch, and many times the material is volatile, and vanishes without trace even in sealed containers.

IUR has obtained a sample of an angel hair-type discovery, provided to us by UFO investigators Marvin Taylor and Paul Cerny. First, we will provide a brief description of the UFO sighting that preceded this find, and then report on the "first returns" from the ongoing analysis of the web-like sample being conducted by Dr. David J. Miletich, director of the Anesthesia Research Laboratories at the University of Chicago.

THE UFO SIGHTING

Information on this sighting has been abstracted from a newspaper article describing Marvin Taylor's investigation of the incident as well as a direct call to the witness by IUR.

DATE: October 12, 1976
TIME: 7:30 PM
DURATION SEEN: 5-7 min.
WITNESSES: 2
PLACE: Sonora, CA

Mrs. Parker, the wife of a local dentist, and her 14-year old daughter Cheri were attracted outdoors when a loud noise "like a jet" drowned out the sound of their TV; no interference was reported, however. Their dogs were barking, howling, and running around their mountaintop property, located 4 miles east of town. The witnesses had to shout to hear each other as the sound increased to the level of "six jets". After five minutes, the source of the sound appeared to move off down the ravine to the northwest, and stopped abruptly. The dogs suddenly calmed down, and came over to the witnesses. A minute or so passed. Then a large bright red light was noticed 45 degrees up in the east. This was vertically oblong in shape, wobbled back and forth, pivoting on its bottom "like a top", and fluctuated in brightness. Five minutes later, it shot off in an upward arc towards the southeast in one second and was gone. The light was reportedly seen independently by a schoolteacher and others; a former highway patrolman was also alarmed by the noise, and couldn't find the source. The weather was clear and stars were visible.

The next morning, Mrs. Parker found the samples of "angel hair" on her property. One specimen was found on her gate 1½ miles away from her house, another was found a mile in the opposite direction; both appeared to be "blown" in opposite directions. The witness said that this material was exactly identical in look and feel to a previous run-in they had had with "angel hair" back in the fall of 1963. A cable-TV engineer told her husband that he saw three UFOs on the ground with humanoids standing on top of them. The next day, they all went back to the site, and found a large circular arrangement of angel hair material spread out in a ¼-block radius; the strands were all diverging away from the center as if "blown" that way.

This recent angel hair find is not quite exemplary of the incidents usually described in the literature:

* The connection between the alleged UFO and the "angel hair" was not directly observed.
* The webbing does not stretch into fibers nor exhibit strength—it's quite fragile. Also, it hasn't vanished in months of captivity!

On the plus side:

* The sample *was* discovered in October, the peak month in the past for angel hair discoveries; most of them occur in the fall. Yet the fall is also the time that those balloon spiders actively migrate, too.
* Mrs. Parker has never had any webs like these on her property any year before 1976. Furthermore, she professes to be familiar with the single-stranded airborne webs of balloon spiders, and asserts that the "angel hair sample is different."

Still, although the case is not ideal, IUR has arranged for a more comprehensive analysis than has generally been applied to this mysterious substance.* Is this angel hair specimen truly a mystery, or does it have a commonplace origin?

THE ANALYSIS

The following is the first report submitted to IUR by Dr. David Miletich:

"Preliminary analysis of the specimen "angel hair" has not resulted in anything approaching a positive identification at this time. However, it is possible on the basis of our findings to say with a fair degree of confidence what it is not and to speculate to any extent concerning its nature.

Microscopic examination revealed an unspectacular reticulum of whitish, fibrous material of uniform composition being quite fine with frequent branching. The fibers are definitely not human or from any vertebrate animal. They are probably not synthetic since they lack the uniformity in appearance that is so characteristic of synthetic fibers. Enmeshed in the fibers were several pieces of debris. Most were nondescript; however, a small plant seed was clearly identifiable as well as what appeared to be a broken piece of plant root. Perhaps the more interesting inclusions were three or four pieces (2x2 mm) of clear parafin (positively identified). It is very likely that the presence of debris in the specimen may have been due to contamination by handling subsequent to its acquisition. This is quite possible because the material is highly charged with static electricity and has a tendency to cling to any surface including smooth surfaces such as glass. In addition, the specimen seems to be coated with a slightly sticky substance. Coupled with the static electricity the latter made handling of the material difficult.

Ashing of a small sample of the specimen revealed that it is com-

(cont. on page 8)

* Other analyses have been conducted on "angel hair" in the past. The conclusions range from "airborne rayon", ejected as an industrial residue, to strange tin alloys of high purity. See Leonard Stringfield's 1957 book, SAUCER POST ... 3-0 BLUE.

A TECHNOLOGICAL APPROACH TO UFOs

A Status Report on Project Starlight International

June 30, 1977

by Ray Stanford, director

Certain students of the UFO problem have from time to time commented or complained that researchers cannot study UFOs directly—that they can only obtain, evaluate, and correlate data contained in the reports made by UFO observers.

Yet nine years ago, in a hearing on UFOs convened on July 29, 1968, by the House Committee on Science and Astronautics, Dr. Garry C. Henderson, then Senior Research Scientist in Space Sciences, Applied Research Group, Fort Worth Division, General Dynamics, made a more realistic assessment of what UFO researchers *can* do. Dr. Henderson was then Project Leader on the lunar surface gravimeter/surveying system.

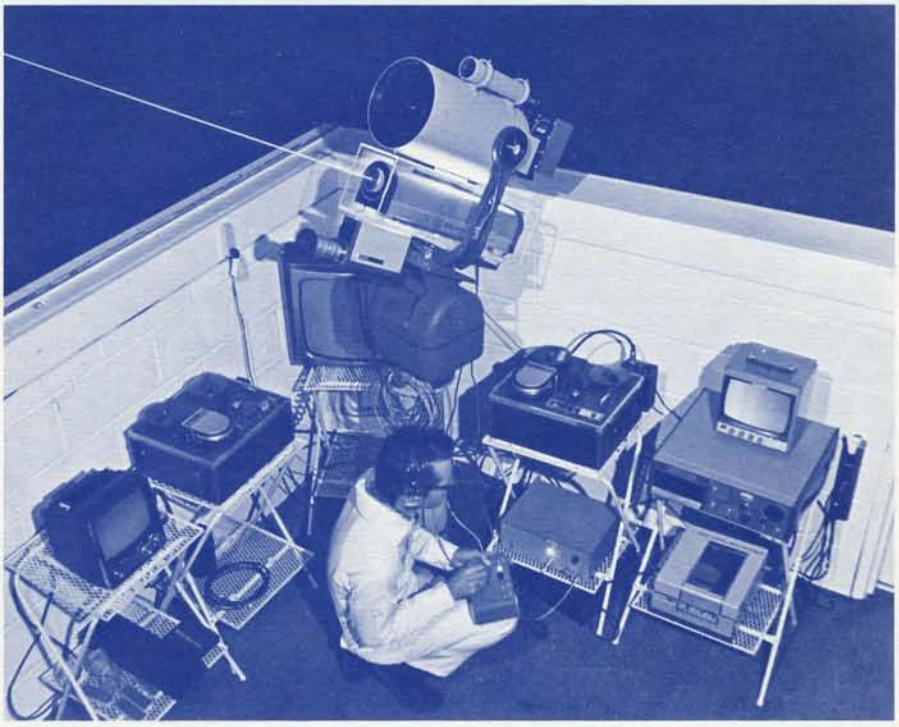
Henderson testified, "Several professional, qualified observers with proper instrumentation, planning, and time *should be able* to devise schemes in an unbiased manner to (1) determine what UFOs ARE NOT, then (2) determine what, if anything, they ARE."

Dr. Henderson went on to ask, "Is it not obvious that what we need to establish the existence or non-existence of UFOs is not merely a review of sighting incidents, but an *implemented plan to acquire hard facts*?"

The aerospace scientist went on to list a group of instruments which, if assembled for UFO research, could, he felt, result in the gathering of " ... sufficient data leading to proof of the existence or non-existence of UFOs, and, if they are real, the size(s), shape(s), flight characteristics ... possible means of propulsion and navigation, perhaps the establishment of communications, and eventually their origin."

I am very pleased to report that a nonprofit research corporation is in the process of assembling not only the entire system of instruments suggested by Dr. Henderson (and many more pieces of equipment), but has put together a research facility dedicated exclusively to UFO hard-data research.

The laboratory mentioned is a research facility of the Association for the Understanding of Man called Project Starlight International (P.S.I.), which has established a permanent base for operation of equipment on its isolated research site located about twenty miles northwest of Austin, Texas. There, in its two laboratory buildings and on surrounding hillsides, instruments monitor and record (with correlated universal time data) a broad range of physical effects that might profitably be studied in connection with UFO events. To date, four of the P.S.I. staff members each have a minimum of 400 hours experience in sky-watching and in identifying sky objects.



Project Starlight International's optical equipment building, showing laser unit in operation (made visible here by spraying water vapor).

Although focusing its efforts at the permanent research installation, the salaried P.S.I. staff is prepared to load essential equipment quickly into the project's four-wheel drive van for transportation to areas where concentrated UFO activity is reportedly occurring. The equipment could be taken to any accessible area of North America if necessary.

Now, to explain broadly the working objective of P.S.I. and of its Operation ARGUS (Automated Ring-up on Geolocated UFO Sightings): to gather a broad range of UFO hard data and to make that data rapidly accessible to interested members of the scientific community, as well as for actual *UFO-event sharing* on a local level, as will later be explained.

Reports of close-range UFO events have repeatedly contained descriptions which may indicate that UFOs produce magnetic, radio-frequency, and even gravitational effects, as well as barometric changes, electrostatic effects, temperature changes, and odd sounds. Hence the P.S.I. lab incorporates three automatic recording magnetometers and an automatic recording gravimeter. In various stages of preparation are a recording microbarometer, a recording electrometer, and a magnetometer-actuated all sky camera. Already operative are a highly directional microphone designed for distant recording and an ambient microphone (for recording all nearby audio events and human voice reactions). All recordings are made with universal time input for correlation studies. Also included is an eight-channel

sensor-activated chart recorder, for visual display of all low-frequency data (to 150 Hz) as well as WWVB time. Various radio-frequency scanners and recorders, with similar time inputs, are installed for use during UFO events.

A computer-interfaced magnetometer system is now being prepared. The system will process field-effect data from the three newly designed and constructed magnetometer sensors (to 700 Hz with 60 Hz filter) oriented in three dimensions and will display via color video the processed magnetic field data in the form of a 'three-dimensional model', with each dimensional field component shown in a separate color. Along with the field-effect 'model', time will be video-displayed for use in correlating other UFO effects with the magnetic ones.

An optical and electronic device now at the laboratory can be used to monitor and display pulsations or changes in UFO-related light within a 2.5 megaHertz band width, but is being modified to a band width of up to ten megaHertz, using a solid-state sensor system.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has recently acknowledged that it is conducting research that will be "the first step toward actually contacting extraterrestrial life" (Dr. I. Rasool, NASA's Office of Space Science, Washington, D.C.) With a corresponding purpose, and in agreement with what was proposed by Dr. Henderson in the 1968 Congressional hearing the P.S.I. laboratory staff feels it should attempt to evaluate whether or not UFO intelligences, if they exist, are capable of, or interested in, exchanging intelligent communication. To that end, one of our devices incorporates a modulatable Liconix 605M helium-neon (red wavelength) laser which can transmit voice, code, or video (TV) pictures. The aforementioned light pulse detection system can display as sound or TV images modulated light responses which a UFO might make to P.S.I.'s laser communication experiment signals. Red laser light was chosen for the communication response experiment, rather than radio-frequency transmission, because UFOs reportedly disrupt radio transmission and/or reception, and because no radio transmissions (other than radio-frequency noise) have ever been reliably reported to have come from UFOs. On the other hand, several seemingly reliable UFO accounts describe light resembling a laser beam (i.e., an apparently coherent beam) coming from an object to the ground, as in the case wherein young Gregory Wells of Beallsville, Ohio, on March 19, 1968, was burned by a red, laser-like beam from an object reportedly witnessed also by the boy's mother and grandmother. Other seemingly laser-like beams (less destructive ones) have been reported in other UFO cases.

UFO hard data monitoring remains P.S.I.'s prime objective, and the laser equipment which could be used in communication experiments could also help test the hypothesis that there are atmospheric density variations around some UFOs which seem to bend light beams rather sharply. Yet, as project director, I would have felt negligent if some capability for sophisticated communication experiments had not been designed into the P.S.I. equipment.

Any instrumentally detectable laser transmission reflections from a UFO can, with certain system modifications, also be used to obtain the distance of the UFO with extreme accuracy.

A 35mm movie camera, a super-8mm sound movie camera with 1 to 12 zoom ratio lens, and three automatically synchronized 35mm cameras (one of which employs a diffraction grating for spectrum studies) photographically record any UFO event from various stations at the site. Two Schmidt-Cassegrain (two-mirrored) telescopes of 2,110mm and 1,250mm focal lengths, along with a 240mm telephoto on the 35mm movie camera, are also used to obtain high-resolution 'close-up' photographic images of objects being tracked.

Because UFOs have often been reported to check new or unusual light patterns on the ground, and even to respond to lights deliberately flashed at them from below, a light pattern response experiment has also been devised, although it is rarely used. It consists of 91 spotlights of 150 watts each in a hundred-foot circle, with a single light in the center. This is *not* intended to be a UFO decoy. The lights may be sequenced in any desired pattern, and even in mimicry of observed UFO light patterns, by application of solid-state circuitry and a microprocessor.

On June 8, 1977, the Federal Communications Commission licensed our laboratory's radar system with the call sign K12XBJ (new)—the only known radar facility in the world established for the exclusive purpose of UFO research. (The licensed unit is Raytheon Model 1700 radar, 12 mile radius, 360° rotation, 20° vertical coverage, 7.5 kW peak at 9375 mHz frequency. Thus the unit has some drawbacks for broad range

Operation ARGUS laboratory and the radar and radio monitoring antennas. The radar unit, sweeping a 12-mile radius, may become operational before the year's end.

sky coverage. A more effective system will be sought when funding permits.)

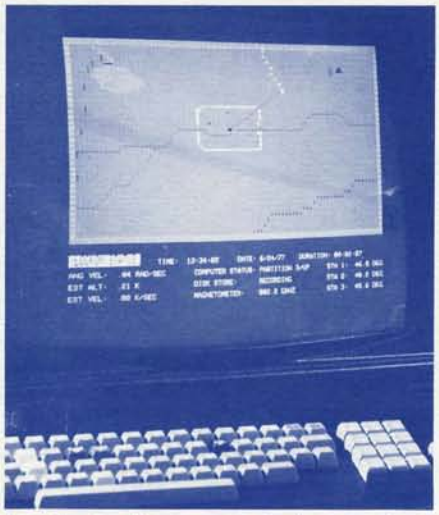
The most sophisticated monitoring system yet designed by the laboratory staff is now being prepared for operation, hopefully by mid-1978. The system is called Operation ARGUS (Automated Ring-up on Geolocated UFO Sightings), and will operate as follows:

Highly exact UFO distance information will be electronically derived from reflected radar signal return-time data and/or (depending on whether the UFO is being successfully tracked by radar) from very accurate horizontal and vertical coordinate data transmitted to the computer from shaft encoders on optical tracking instruments in the system. The angular data, along with radar-derived distance data, will be fed in binary format into the Operation ARGUS computer. Immediately the

computer will use the input to calculate and display, both on video and in typed (120 characters per second) form, the actual distance of the UFO, the horizontal distance, and the altitude. Data will also be recorded which will allow computation of the size of the object. Distance data should be accurate within a very few meters when the object is being tracked by the ARGUS radar.

In addition, the computer will be able simultaneously to select, from a memory of 472 square miles of terrain over which the system can track a UFO, an appropriate sector of a full-color topographic map, displaying only the specific sector over which it determines the UFO to be passing, hovering, or landing. That image will be displayed directly from computer memory via an eight-color video screen and the computed, to-scale locations and path of the UFO are superimposed by the computer over it, with successive letters or numbers designating the sequentially tracked UFO positions. The combined image will be computer-memory replayable for later study. In this way the P.S.I. staff can determine over which ground objects the UFO passes or hovers, and even the location of a UFO landing. Hence, even if a landing site cannot be reached by P.S.I.'s four-wheel drive mobile van before the object leaves, investigators can be there as soon as possible to study the landing site and collect various forms of evidence for later evaluation and study.

Now for the reasons for using the acronym ARGUS, in Greek myth a creature with many eyes: while the computer calculates and displays all the aforementioned data, it will also scan its memory for the names and phone numbers of all ARGUS volunteers located within the computed visibility radius of the UFO (based on an evaluation using the object's size and altitude). It will begin a completely automated telephoning of all volunteers within the visibility radius, using several phone lines simultaneously. When a volunteer answers, a recording will say, "This is an Operation ARGUS alert. Please do as you were instructed." The volunteer (layman, engineer, scientist, or media person) will then go outside, hopefully spot the UFO, and acquire photos, notes, and other data. This is *UFO-event sharing.* It can result in far more witnesses to a UFO event—from various ground positions. The computer will also type out the names and phone numbers of all telephoned volunteers, so that the P.S.I. staff can check with them later if they do not report back on their own.



Tracking (and instrument data) automatically displayed on Operation ARGUS' color-TV computer terminal display, showing simulated UFO being tracked.

Power failures have sometimes been reported in association with UFO observations. Anticipating such power failures, plans are being made to provide an emergency power supply which would automatically switch on in that event. Hopefully it will be unaffected by whatever caused failure of the external power supply.

Presently, the low-frequency (to 150 Hz) data monitored and recorded via the eight-channel chart recorder can be photocopied and mailed to cooperating scientists, engineers, and serious research groups around the world within 24 hours following any instrumentally recorded UFO event at the lab. (Exposure time data from three synchronized cameras used in obtaining photos for triangulation purposes is also contained on the chart recording.) Within a week or so, copies of photos, spectrum displays, magnetic effect recordings, and gravimetric data in IRIG (FM) format on magnetic tapes, etc., can also be duplicated and sent to appropriate persons and groups, along with the lab crew's verbal reports.

Also available to the Laboratory of Instrumented UFO Research is psychological stress evaluator (PSE) analysis for evaluation of the sincerity of persons who have reportedly experienced close-range UFO encounters and/or been abducted by UFO "beings".

The Project Starlight laboratory and its computer-centered Operation ARGUS are presently unique. Yet the facilities are freely open to benefit all serious researchers. It is hoped that the work of the laboratory and the results being obtained (as reported in the project's *Journal of Instrumented UFO Research*, P. O. Box 5310, Austin, Texas 78763) will encourage other groups worldwide to begin a similar approach, where such equipment is deemed useful to an organization's area of research emphasis.

When or if other properly equipped laboratories of instrumented UFO research are put into operation elsewhere in the world, Project Starlight International would be willing to UFO-event share on a reciprocal basis, in real time via computer-opened telephone lines (potentially even to overseas locations) over which monitored UFO data could be transmitted in binary format.

Such real-time UFO alerts and data sharing within a network of UFO data-monitoring laboratories could prove highly valuable in the eventual resolution of many questions concerning the physical components of UFO reality.

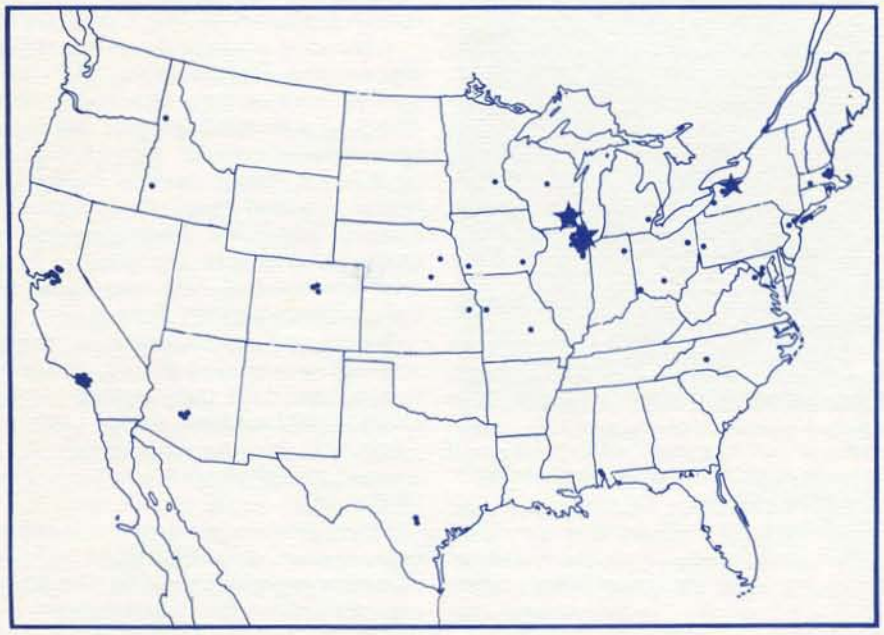
After a quarter century of UFO investigation and five years' active research into the problems of instrumentation for UFO hard-data monitoring, I have concluded that if groups and nations cooperate and constructively and openly in a concerted program of full-time instrumented monitoring, highly valuable results might be obtained.

Considering the possibility, however remote, that UFOs are the product of a highly advanced technology, then such a cooperative program of UFO hard-data monitoring might do more than simply resolve the mystery of unidentified flying objects. Considering that possibility, UFO hard-data research might conceivably contribute toward a viable solution to the worldwide energy crisis, if the reported persistence, numbers, maneuvers, and speeds of UFOs are any reliable indicator of energy usage. At the level of fundamental physical science, careful analysis of UFO hard data might conceivably provide important new knowledge of the basic interactions and their interrelations.

Ed. Note:

Sometimes "long shots" pay off in science as well as on the racetrack or in daily life. The preceeding article describes a most adventurous long shot in UFO research. Some may say that the cost of the effort in time and money is too great for the possible pay-off. But if it does pay off ...! In any event, much of the "fixed" technology described herein can be made multiply mobile in principle ... it would only be a matter of money (much less than the cost of one bomber) ... and so the editors are pleased to have the opportunity of presenting this imaginative and bold instrumented approach to Ufology.

PROFILE: JUNE, 1977



● —IFO ★ —UFO

Ad Planes	30
Stars and Planets	13
Aircraft	12
Meteors	12
Satellites	4
Helicopters	3
Moon	4
Birds	1
Kite	1
Tower	1
Unreliable Witness	1
Unavailable Witness	1
Inconsistent Testimony	1
NL	3
Total Number of Reports	87
Average Per Day	2.9
Peak Activity (11 cases)	6/26
Total Number of UFOs	3
Total Number of IFOs	81
UFOs: 3.6%	*IFOs:* 96.4%

UFOs include 2-7-87, 2-8-26, and 2-8-36. Verifications and complete details of these evaluations are available upon request.

Note that the number of reports received by IUR for the month of June was less than the month of May, a slight reversal compared to the *average* seasonal variation of reported UFO activity (see Jan. '77 issue of IUR). Actually, this is not too significant, but first returns for the month of July reveal that it may not be the "blockbuster" it generally was during the 22 years of Air Force research. Keep an eye on this next month. Is the summer of 1977 going to be a slow one? Or ... is this the calm before the storm?

All of these meteor reports were mostly independent accounts of the same two meteors, both occurring in California on the 18th and the 26th. NASA's Goddard Space Center contacted IUR to see if we had any reports on the former incident, in case they could track the meteor down. We had a half dozen calls, and access to hundreds more via the California Office of Emergency Services. If you were awake and out on the 18th at 1:55 AM, *you were a witness*, because it lit up the whole sky like lightning! NORAD affirmed that it was not ascribable to a predicted satelitte decay; three stations of a Navy radar interferometry array spotted it for a fraction of a second at 2014 miles altitude but couldn't follow its trajectory. Checks for seismic activity failed to locate an impact, although this does not prove it didn't hit the ground. IUR's reports came from all over California, and east to Arizona.

(cont. from page 4)

posed chiefly of carbon and nitrogen which strongly suggests that it is organic. At first we thought it might be a spider web, but a comparison was made and it is quite clear that it is not, being much too fine and fragile. We also compared it to dozens of other fibrous materials (paper fiber, cloth, down, lint, etc.) but could find nothing which approached its likeness.

For no particular reason we decided to test the specimen for radioactivity by crystal and liquid scintillation. To our surprise the material proved to be contaminated with a low level amount of tritium. The level of activity is far from dangerous, but the specimen should not be handled unnecessarily. Barring accidental contamination somewhere along the way, this finding would indicate that the material in question may have been contaminated by fallout or exposed to some sort of nuclear fission, fusion or annihilation event.

A portion of the specimen was tested by the Michael Reese Hospital Microbiology Lab for bacterial presence. Incubation with standard nutrient medium failed to elicit any bacterial growth whatsoever. I find this puzzling since I would expect it to be at least infested with common Pseudomonas because of the great amount of handling that the specimen has undergone. It is well known that many insects and animals naturally secrete antibacterial substances which retard bacteria growth quite successfully. Possibly such a substance may be operating in this instance.

In conclusion, it is our opinion that the material "angel hair" is from a living organism. While it has some unusual properties, i.e. radioactive, sterile, etc. the material most likely has a common, explainable origin. A good bet might be insect."

The tritium content was identified on the basis of its low-energy beta emission along with its long half-life. At this point, the lab is going to confer with entymologists to consider whether different species of spiders might produce a web that would match the sample provided. Watch for a future issue of IUR when we will print concluding statements on the fate of this particular sample.

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(cont. from page 3)

2-8-84 NL 7-13-77 12:30 AM 4 min. 2 Dinwiddie, VA

"Large star", silvery color, seen stationary for 4 minutes ....except that it was underneath rolling storm clouds! The light was seen by an adult couple to "skip" once in position slightly, and *increase* in brightness when lightning flashed such that it could still be seen, yet it was self-luminous! Lightning flashed again ... and it was gone.

No reports from Dinwiddie sheriff nor Petersburg police. Undetected by Richmond Air Traffic Control. Not a police helicopter. The storm broke 15 minutes later; possible ball lightning!

COMMENTARY

NEW CASES OUT OF THE PAST

by J. Allen Hynek

". . . I am a seaman, now at the age of 43. I have been at sea for approximately two thirds of my life. My only experience of seeing a UFO, and only now after reading your book have I realized that it was one, was back in 1953 while serving on a ship in Hong Kong."

A Daylight Disc in Hong Kong Harbor

Synopsis: Midday. Clear, but with heavy white clouds in one quadrant of the sky. Witnessed by many on board ship and on shore. A "silver white disc was hovering about six to seven thousand feet, perfectly stationary". Then in a second or so the disc moved "a full 45° arc to an area where there was some heavy white cloud about five thousand feet." The disc shone through the cloud cover "just as one would see the moon at night through a mist". No markings or protruding structures were seen.

This case came to the Center for UFO Studies as part of a (beautifully handwritten) letter of several pages from a sailor on the crew of a Shell Tanker. Obviously articulate, the writer did not dwell on further details of his sighting (duration, etc.) and these details are now being sought. While at first this strikes one as "just another Daylight Disc", we report it for several reasons: for the record, for several interesting technical details, and for the "explanation" given by some authorities in Hong Kong.

It was explained away as a "meteorological balloon" according to reports from the shoreside community as relayed by sailors, coming back aboard the ship. Maybe Hong Kong had its own Blue Book, or "Society for the Explanation of the Uninvestigated". As the writer of the letter points out, "I have often wondered how the object moved so quickly. A balloon, no matter what sort of air current caught it, wouldn't have moved so fast."

The "shining through the clouds" could mean that the object was self-luminous, or so reflective that, if in the direct sunlight above the clouds, it could be seen right through the clouds. Also, moving 45 degrees in one second from a "standing start" gives it an approximate speed of 3000 m.p.h., given that it passed behind clouds that were themselves a mile high, the acceleration was greater than anything we have been capable of achieving. Even allowing for considerable error in judgment, a balloon is ruled out. If, after this many years have elapsed we can still credit the sailor's memory, we have a genuine Daylight Disc. We await information on its apparent size and the total duration of the sighting. Since we know the minimum distance of the object above the ship, we can get the actual size of the object if we can obtain a good estimate of its angular size. This emphasizes the importance in the interrogation of witnesses to always ask: "Did it pass *in front* of anything—a cloud or a tree or mountain?" If so, then we know that the object had to be at a distance of less than that of the cloud or tree, etc. In this case, the disc passed in back of the cloud. This at least rules out its being "a bird" or "a seed pod flying quite close to the eyes."